

2 SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS—COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

The Weight of the Taxes.

While the journals of the faction now in power are telescopically hunting out single cases of murder and mauling in farthest Texas and Arkansas, provisions of the scores of wife and child murders close at hand, the people are impatiently demanding to know what all that has to do with such a "living" question as that of the enormous taxes which are annually drawn from their pockets.

Is the debt diminished? No. Are the taxes lightened? No. Ninety millions go for the army. What the need of supporting so large a force in a time of peace? Thirty millions of it to keep twenty thousand men in the South; and three of the ten Southern States expressly forbidden by a radical Congress to vote for President and Vice-President, for fear that they may not vote for the radical candidates.

But the cooler heads of the Northern Democracy repudiate a programme which, beginning in revolution, would end in anarchy. Of this more moderate view the World was at one time an emphatic exponent. No journal then showed more clearly the constitutional difficulties which block the path of those who would radically overturn the Government organized under the law.

The Republican plan, on the contrary, has but one meaning and one end. Its maintenance of work performed under the law, and of results realized in conformity with the settled principles of the party, is distinct and emphatic. Neither in regard to the principles or form of reconstruction is there the shadow of turning.

The people understand it all now. They see with a clear eye what this power-seeking faction would conceal from them. And they wait only for the day to come when they may constitutionally exercise the full measure of authority which reverts to their hands.

It is admitted by the Democrats that the reconstruction question is the Aaron's rod of this campaign. In magnitude and importance it overshadows all other questions, and by their attitude in relation to it both parties will mainly be judged.

and generally to adhere to the positions it has assumed in the course of legislation on these matters. We submit, then, that here is the "clear and well settled plan of administration" which the opposition demand. Here is the "exact plan" which the Post declares has no existence, but which in a party sense has been made irrevocable by the Chicago convention.

Can the Democratic party honestly say the same of and for itself? At the instance and in the words of Wade Hampton, it pronounces the reconstruction acts "a usurpation, and unconstitutional, revolutionary, and void," and it also calls for the "immediate restoration of all the States to their rights in the Union."

For two versions of Democratic desire and duty are before the country. Frank Blair's version prevailed in the Convention, and is the one which the Democratic party professes. The opposition leaders of that section have almost to a man committed themselves to the version which implies the overthrow of the reconstructed governments by force, and the re-establishment of white men's governments.

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and efficient organization in his own office and in the two hundred and forty collection districts in the country. They were delegated for the political benefit to be derived from the centralization in the hands of twenty-five men of powers heretofore held by twenty times that number, whose appointment Congress has outrageously usurped from the President and placed by pretense of law in the hands of one of their tools.

From the N. Y. Tribune. We observe that it is expected of General McClellan that immediately upon his arrival from Europe he will begin to make himself useful by eating a dinner in this city in honor of Blair and Seymour.

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to which your feelings ally you. We ask nothing, but shall rest content with recording your verdict.

General Grant and the Democracy—The Lessons of Past Elections.

From the N. Y. Herald. The Democracy, in fighting the unparalleled assumptions of power, extravagances, corruptions, and grinding taxations of the present radical Congress, have sufficient material for a vigorous and effective campaign against the Republican party and its Presidential ticket of Grant and Colfax.

For instance, in the campaign of 1852, between Jackson and Adams—a campaign which marked a new organization of parties—the Adams party wisely adopted the policy of a general hue and cry against Jackson, as a man whose personal record and character would make his election a lasting disgrace to the country.

Such was the lesson given to the adverse party in the election of 1852. The same popular spirit of fair play against partisan persecution contributed to the increase of the vote for Jackson in 1852, although the bank question was the controlling issue in that canvass.

Here, then, are two very important lessons for our Democratic politicians—in the first election of Jackson in 1828, and in the defeat of Scott in 1852. In the one case against a meritorious soldier we see that personal calumnies and abuse only served to enlarge his claims in the estimation of the people.

From the Cincinnati Gazette. A short time ago we published an article designed to show that the spirit which now actuates the National Democratic party is essentially one with that which animates the lawless and barbarous Ku-Klux Klan of the South.

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